

Message Text

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71

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 SY-05

SSO-00 /024 W

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P 062311Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6639

UNCLAS MEXICO 10110

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX (FRONCZAK, SANDRA)

SUBJ: W/W: SANDRA FRONCZAK

REF: MEXICO 9377, TELCON POLIK-CAMPBELL, AUGUST 3

IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFERENCED
TELCON, FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL DETAILS ARE PROVIDED TO FILL
IN CHRONOLOGY OF EMBASSY ACTIONS IN FRONCZAK CASE:

A. HOW DID EMBASSY FIRST LEARN OF CASE?

EMBASSY WAS FIRST INFORMED OF SEMMELROTH DEATH BY
TELEPHONE CALL FROM S. TUCKER IN DEPARTMENT (SCS)
AT 0830 MONDAY MAY 17. AT NO TIME WAS EMBASSY
INFORMED BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES IN ACAPULCO.

B. WHAT SPECIFIC REQUEST OR DEMANDS DID FRONCZAK
MAKE OF EMBASSY ON MAY 19?

EMBASSY CALLED FRONCZAK ON MAY 19, UPON LEARNING
HIS WHEREABOUTS IN ACAPULCO, TO OFFER ASSISTANCE.
FRONCZAK DID NOT MAKE ANY SPECIFIC REQUEST, BUT
ASKED IN GENERAL FOR HELP. HE WAS TOLD EMBASSY
WAS CONTACTING POLICE AUTHORITIES IN ACAPULCO TO OBTAIN MORE
INFORMATION. ON MAY 20 EMBASSY CALLED TO INFORM HIM THAT
CONOFF MILLIN WOULD BE ARRIVING ACAPULCO THAT DAY.
MILLIN ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT FRONCZAK ON MAY 20,
MAY 21 AND MAY 22, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS, AS
FRONCZAK HAD INSTRUCTED HOTEL TO DENY HIS PRESENCE.

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C. WHAT SPECIFIC ASSISTANCE DID CONOFF MORROW PROVIDE ON VISIT TO ACAPULCO MAY 28-JUNE 1?

MORROW CALLED FRONCZAK ON ARRIVAL TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND INQUIRE WHETHER THERE WERE ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS. HE INFORMED FRONCZAK OF HIS HOTEL ROOM NUMBER AND SUGGESTED THAT HE CALL AT ANY TIME HE NEEDED ASSISTANCE. FRONCZAK STATED THAT HE WAS THEN WORKING ON SOME "LEADS" HE DID NOT WANT TO DISCUSS. HE COMPLAINED THAT POLICE HAD NOT INFORMED HIM THAT SOME OF WIFE'S BELONGINGS HAD BEEN FOUND. HE ASKED MORROW TO DISCUSS WITH CHIEF OF POLICE POSSIBILITY OF BRINGING THE ARMY IN TO SEARCH FOR HIS WIFE.

MORROW SAW CHIEF OF POLICE ACOSTA EVENING OF MAY 28. ACOSTA SAID THAT POLICE HAD 40 MEN INVOLVED IN THE SEARCH FOR MRS. FRONCZAK, AND THAT IT WOULD NOT BE PRACTICAL TO CALL UPON THE ARMY FOR ASSISTANCE. HE PROMISED TO INFORM MORROW PROMPTLY OF ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CASE. (HE NEVER DID, AND THE FOLLOWING WEEK TOLD MORROW HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT TO GIVE OUT ANY INFORMATION IN THE CASE.) WHEN MORROW RAISED FRONCZAK'S COMPLAINT OF NOT BEING INFORMED BY POLICE REGARDING HIS WIFE'S BELONGINGS, ACOSTA RESPONDED THAT POLICE FEARED LEAKS TO THE PRESS WHICH MIGHT INTERFERE WITH THE INVESTIGATION.

MORROW WAS IN DAILY CONTACT WITH FRONCZAK AND CHIEF OF POLICE MAY 28 THROUGH JUNE 1, BUT FRONCZAK MADE NO OTHER REQUESTS DURING THAT TIME.

D. FAMILY COMPLAINTS THAT EMBASSY HAS NOT CALLED THEM TWICE WEEKLY, AS PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED:
SINCE ABOUT JUNE 30, EMBASSY HAS ATTEMPTED TO TELEPHONE MR. MCGOWAN AND MRS. SEMMELROTH TWICE WEEKLY, AND MR. FRONCZAK WHEN THERE WERE NEW DEVELOPMENTS. (FRONCZAK HAD NOT ASKED EMBASSY TO CALL REGULARLY, ONLY WHEN THERE WERE NEW DEVELOPMENTS.) WE HAVE NOT ALWAYS SUCCEEDED IN GETTING UNCLASSIFIED

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CALLS THROUGH TO MCGOWAN, AS SEVERAL TIMES HIS LINE HAS BEEN ENGAGED FOR LENGTHY PERIODS, OR THERE WAS NO ANSWER. EACH TELEPHONE CALL TO MR. MCGOWAN TAKES BETWEEN 30 TO 45 MINUTES, ALTHOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN VERY FEW DEVELOPMENTS TO REPORT. MRS. SEMMELROTH ASKED THE EMBASSY ON JULY 23 TO CALL HER ONLY EVERY THREE OR FOUR WEEKS, OR WHEN THERE WAS SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO REPORT.

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